

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

After the foregoing Amendment, Claims 1-10, 12 and 19-28 remain pending in this application. The claims have been amended to more distinctly define the claimed subject matter. No new matter has been introduced into the application by these amendments.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

Claims 23-28 stand rejected under 35 USC § 101 as directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claims 23-28 have been revised to make it clear that they are directed to processing communication signal data vector elements. Withdrawal of the 35 USC § 101 rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §§102 and 103

Claims 1-2, 4-9 and 23-24 stand rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as being unpatentable over Gatherer et al. (U.S. Patent 6,298,366) and claims 3, 10, 12, 19-22 and 25-28 stand rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gatherer et al. (U.S. Patent 6,298,366) and in view of Wilson (U.S. Patent 5,268,856). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Although Gatherer et al. was submitted by applicants in an Information Disclosure Statement, this is not an admission that Gatherer et al. is prior art.

Specifically, applicants do not admit that Gatherer et al. is available as a reference under 35 USC § 102(b) since the issue date of Gatherer et al. is October 2, 2001 which is less than one year from applicants' priority date of September 24, 2002. Nevertheless, the amended claims clearly define over Gatherer et al. as set forth below.

Claim 1, which is representative, has been amended to recite "a parallel output N-fold shift register configured to receive data elements to be processed where the elements are received in respective shift register folds having a predetermined fold size whereby up to N elements can be stored for parallel output from the N-fold shift register at one time." This enables the calculation unit to be used to perform various matrix operations of vector data elements having complex values, such as in the preferred context of processing communication signal data.

The cited references do not disclose or suggest such a parallel output N-fold shift register where up to N elements are stored for parallel output or use thereof as defined by the pending claims. Withdrawal of the claim rejections based on prior art is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

If the Examiner believes that any additional minor formal matters need to be addressed in order to place this application in condition for allowance, or that a

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telephone interview will help to materially advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone at the Examiner's convenience.

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application, including the pending claims, is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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